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Adverse Drug Reactions Monitoring Of Anticancer Agents In A Teaching Hospital Thakur Ravi*, Bajaj Jagminder Kaur[#], Dutta Archana^{\$}, Sidhu Shabir^{*}

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Background: An increase in the cancer incidence has resulted in increased use of chemotherapy which in turn increase patient's susceptibility toward adverse drug reactions (ADRs). The ADRs associated with anticancer agents are under reported and warrant proper reporting and performance of causality assessment. A hospital based retrospective observational study to explore the prevalence and causality of adverse drug reactions of anticancer agents was planned.

Materials and Methods: The study was carried out out at Punjab Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS), Jalandhar, Punjab after obtaining IEC approval. The data pertaining to ADRs was collected from medical records of the cancer patients visiting PIMS between February 2020 to May 2020. A case report form was used to record patient's data. The collected data was tabulated and analyzed by using descriptive statistics. Causality assessment was done by using WHO causality assessment scale. Preventability and severity of the reported ADRs was also assessed.

Result: From 50 medical records, a total of 47 ADRs were recorded among 25 patients out of which 16 were females and rest were males. The common cancers observed were, breast carcinoma, leukemia, lung, colon and ovarian cancer. Highest number of ADRs were observed with alkylating agents, taxanes, antimetabolites and kinase inhibitors and monoclonal antibodies. The most common affected organ systems due to ADRs were gastrointestinal system (36.17%) and blood and lymphatic system (23.40%). According to WHO-UMC causality assessment scale, majority of the ADRs were of -possible category. Preventability analysis showed that 85.11% of ADRs were unavoidable reactions, while 14.89% of ADRs were possibly avoidable. Severity analysis of ADRs showed that 87.23% of ADRs were mild and 12.77% were of moderate severity.

Conclusion: Monitoring and reporting of ADRs is essential for efficient management of cancer patients. The majority of the ADRs observed were unavoidable and mild to moderate in severity.